

THANK YOU FOR ADOPTING THIS TREE

THE BENEFITS OF PLANTING TREES

Trees are our biggest defense against the heat. Trees provide shade and absorb solar energy.

TREES LITERALLY COOL THE AIR AROUND THEM. Through evapotranspiration, they cool the air by evaporating moisture through their leaves. Daytime air temperatures can be 3 to 6 degrees cooler in tree-shaded neighborhoods.

TREE SHADING THE SOUTH AND WEST SIDES of a building block the summer sun and reduce the amount of heat absorbed by the building.

A/C UNITS IN AN AREA SHADED BY TREES work more efficiently and use up to 10% less electricity.

PLANTS DIRECTLY CLEAN POLLUTANTS from air and water, provide flood protection, reduce soil erosion, and provide oxygen and food.

TREES INDIRECTLY IMPROVE AIR QUALITY by reducing the amount of A/C driven electricity use and its related utility emissions (NOx and VOCs).



TREE PLANTING INSTRUCTIONS

512-443-LEAF  TREEFOLKS.ORG



CONGRATULATIONS!

1

PLAN THE LOCATION! Make sure the tree is the appropriate distance from other trees and structures (shade trees min. 20', understory trees min. 10') and shade trees are not planted under utility lines. All trees should be planted 5'-15' from the curb and at least 5' from underground utilities or sidewalks. Call 811 to have your utilities marked.

2

START DIGGING! Dig a hole 2-3 times the width and no deeper than the depth of the root ball. The root ball is the area containing the roots and potting soil. Keep the top of the root ball even with the ground and make sure the tree is placed on firm soil to prevent sinking. Keep the base of the trunk clear of soil and mulch to prevent disease and root rot.

3

TICKLE THE ROOTS! Remove the tree from the container and loosen the soil and roots on the outside edge of the root ball. Cut any thick roots growing in a circle around the root ball to prevent the tree from choking.

4

BACKFILL THE SOIL! Backfill the hole with the original soil and no additives! For additional nutrients, add compost on top of the ground under the mulch. Use your hand to tamp the soil until the hole is filled. Leftover soil should be placed in a ring about 2-3 feet away from the tree.

5

BUILD A MULCH RING! Build a 4" tall mulch ring 2-3 feet around the tree keeping the mulch at least 3 inches from the trunk. Mulch keeps the soil moist, protects the tree and adds nutrients.



LEARN HOW TO CARE FOR YOUR NEW TREE(S)

6

WATERING IS ESSENTIAL! 5 gallon container trees need 15-20 gallons of water every 7-10 days unless it rains at least 1 inch. Leave a hose on a low stream for 15 minutes to equal 15-20 gallons. Water the tree year-round for at least 2 years!

7

REMOVE STAKES AND TAPE! Young trees grow stronger when they are able to sway with the wind. Remove all stakes and tape when planted.

DIAL BEFORE YOU DIG

Be sure to call 1-800-344-8377 at least 48 hours before you intend to plant your tree(s). Tell the operator your name, address, and that you are planting a tree for NeighborWoods. Allow 48 hours for the utilities to be marked with paint. Please plant the tree 5 – 12' from the curb near the brown or white flag. The tree should be placed at least 5 feet away from underground utilities, sidewalks or driveways. Shade trees (white flag) should be planted 20' apart from one another or other existing trees. **Do not plant shade trees underneath overhead utility lines.** Understory trees (brown flag) should be planted 10' apart from one another or other existing trees. You can plant understory trees underneath overhead utility lines.

**WATER CONTAINER TREES DAILY UNTIL PLANTED.
PLANTING SEASON IN CENTRAL TEXAS IS BETWEEN OCTOBER – MARCH!**

For further questions, please contact TreeFolks: (512) 443-5323 • www.TreeFolks.org